

Message Text

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16- R

ACTION H-03

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FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 483

USGAO HONOLULU

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BANGKOK FOR USGAO MANAGER LYONS

FOR STATE/ AID

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: SREF CB

SUBJECT: INFORMATION FOR GAO REPORT ON REFUGEES

REF: A. BANGKOK 3297

B. PHNOM PENH 1889

1. MILITARY DEPENDENTS. THE DATA YOU REQUESTED ON NUMBER OF DEPENDENTS ARE NOT READILY AVAILABLE FROM THE GKR. WE HAVE NOT MADE AN ASSESSMENT OF CONDITIONS REGARDING THESE DEPENDENTS.

2. GKR RESOURCES FOR CIVILIAN WAR VICTIMS. (NOTE: WE ARE RELUCTANT TO PLACE A DOLLAR EQUIVALENCY ON GKR BUDGETARY FIGURES AS THERE IS NO REAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE TWO. AS YOU ARE AWARE, THE RATE OF EXCHANGE IN 1972 RANGED, AT NUMEROUS RATES FOR VARIOUS PERIODS, FROM 120:1 TO 213:1. IF THE AVERAGE RATE IS ESSENTIAL FOR YOUR PURPOSES, THE BEST ESTIMATE WE CAN MAKE IS 160:1.)

A. TOTAL BUDGET FOR DIRECTORATE GENERAL FOR REFUGEES AND WAR VICTIMS, 1972 - 12,604,800 RIELS (\$78,780 BASED ON AVERAGE RATE OF RIEL FOR 1972 - 160 RIELS TO US\$1).

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B. ACTUAL EXPENDITURES - 10,798,810 RIELS (\$67,492)

(1) CIVILIAN KILLED (53) CASES)

2,777,000 RIELS (\$17,356)

(2) CIVILIAN WOUNDED (1,277 CASES)

1,277,000 RIELS (\$7,981)

(3) GIFTS TO WOUNDED MILITARY

1,000,000 RIELS (\$6,250)

(4) REFUGEE RELIEF 3,280,000 RIELS (\$20,500)

(5) ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

PERSONNEL 1,394,810 RIELS (\$8,717)

MATERIAL 1,070,000 RIELS (\$6,687)

3. ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY FOREIGN COUNTRIES

A. RECEIVED BY DIRECTORATE FOR REFUGEES AND WAR VICTIMS,
1972 (FIGURES FOR OCTOBER THROUGH DECEMBER, 1971 NOT AVAILABLE).

(1) MONEY

(A) ASIAN PARLIAMENTARY UNION (\$ 30)

(B) FRENCH VETERANS OF INDOCHINA 200,000 R (\$1,250)

(C) THAI BUDDHIST ASSOCIATION 37,797 R (\$ 236)

(2) GOODS

JAPANESE BUDDHIST ASSOCIATION

B. KHMER RED CROSS

(1) DONORS

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF RED CROSS

LEAGUE OF RED CROSS

CANADIAN RED CROSS

FRENCH RED CROSS

JAPANESE RED CROSS

KOREAN RED CROSS

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS

AMERICAN RED CROSS

DANISH RED CROSS

THAI RED CROSS

GERMAN RED CROSS

ASSOCIATION OF DOCTORS IN PARIS

ASSOCIATION OF KHMER ARTISTS IN USSR

ASSOCIATION OF KHMER STUDENTS IN US

ASSOCIATION OF KHMER STUDENTS IN TOKYO

ASSOCIATION OF KHMER DOCTORS IN FRANCE

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ASSOCIATION OF KHMER STUDENTS IN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

VARIOUS INDIVIDUALS

(2) ESTIMATED PARTIAL VALUE (DOES NOT INCLUDE HUMANITARIAN SUPPLIES FOR WHICH IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE TO CALCULATE VALUE).

SWISS FRANCS - 286,179

FRENCH FRANCS - 4,080

RIELS - 1,110,063

US DOLLARS - 2,958,116

YEN - 2,333,000

C. INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF RED CROSS

(1) U. S. GOVERNMENT GRANT OF \$50,000 FOR REFUGEE RELIEF;

(2) TOTAL COMPILATION OF HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE RECEIVED BY ICRC FOR KHMER REPUBLIC NOW BEING PREPARED BY ICRC/ GENEVA AND WILL BE AVAILABLE LATE MARCH.

D. DISTRIBUTION OF RELIEF TO REFUGEES. THE DIRECTORATE FOR REFUGEES AND WAS VICTIMS AND THE KHMER RED CROSS USUALLY DISTRIBUTE COMMODITIES DIRECTLY TO THE REFUGEES. ICRC DISTRIBUTES DIRECTLY AND ALSO WORKS THROUGH ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS THE KHMER RED CROSS, DIRECTORATE FOR REFUGEES AND WAR VICTIMS, KHMER WOMEN' S ASSOCIATION, AND OTHERS.

4. PUBLIC HEALTH. THROUGH EMBASSY IS NOT IN POSITION TO MAKE DETAILED ASSESSMENT OF CURRENT PUBLIC HEALTH SITUATION FOR LACK OF TRAINED MEDICAL PERSONNEL, WE BELIEVE FOLLOWING OBSERVATIONS ARE VALID:

A. PHARMACEUTICALS ARE MORE AVAILABLE NOW THAN WHEN ORIGINAL GAO REPORT WAS PREPARED. THROUGH THE EXCHANGE SUPPORT FUND, WHICH BEGAN OPERATIONS AS OF MARCH 1, 1972, ALMOST \$4,000,000 WORTH OF PHARMACEUTICALS WERE FINANCED AND IMPORTED IN 1972. DRUG FIRMS HAVE STEADILY INCREASED THEIR PRODUCTION OF PHARMACEUTICALS FOR DISTRIBUTION IN KHMER REPUBLIC AND ONE LARGE DANISH- MANAGED PLANT WENT INTO OPERATION LATE IN THE YEAR. ANOTHER MODERN PRODUCTION FACILITY IS UNDER CONSTRUCTION. SHORTAGES STILL DO EXIST, ESPECIALLY IN SOME HOSPITALS AND IN THE MORE ISOLATED PROVINCES. SUCH SHORTAGES ARE USUALLY CAUSED BY LACK OF FUNDS ON THE PART OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH OR BY TRANSPORTATION AND DISTRIBUTION PROBLEMS.

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B. IN GENERAL, THE HOSPITALS IN PHNOM PENH APPEAR PRESENTLY TO BE CONSIDERABLY LESS CROWDED AND OVERBURDENED THAN AT THE TIME OF THE LAST GAO REPORT.

5. AVAILABILITY OF FOOD. THOUGH FOOD PRICES HAVE RISEN, THE

EMBASSY STILL BELIEVES AVERAGE REFUGEE FAMILY OF FIVE IN
PHNOM PENH CAN EAT REASONABLY WELL ON 200 RIELS A DAY.
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